

Message Text

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ORIGIN DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 L-03 SS-15 TRSE-00 OES-09
IO-13 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /072 R

DRAFTED BY D/LOS:ABERLIND/AD
APPROVED BY S/AR:GHALDRICH
-----028903 142128Z /73

P R 142054Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 178149

FOR AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REPLY TO AMBASSADOR WOLFF

1. THERE FOLLOWS A PROPOSED LETTER FOR YOU TO CABLE DIRECT-
LY TO EMBASSY BONN FOR DELIVERY TO AMBASSADOR WOLFF, IN
RESPONSE TO HIS LETTER OF JULY 10 WRITTEN ON BEHALF OF THE
EC NINE.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

-- DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR:

-- I RECEIVED YOUR LETTER OF JULY 10, WRITTEN ON BEHALF OF
THE EC NINE NOW PRESIDED OVER BY THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC, JUST
BEFORE I LEFT WASHINGTON ON JULY 12, AND I WISHED TO PRO-
VIDE AT LEAST A BRIEF REPLY BEFORE WE MEET IN NEW YORK ON
AUGUST 21.

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-- FIRST, I SHOULD NOTE THAT MANY OF THE CONCERNS OF THE
NINE WITH RESPECT TO THE NEED FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS IN
THE SEABEDS ARTICLES ARE SHARED BY THE US. I BELIEVE IT
WILL BE NECESSARY TO MAKE CLEAR FOR THE RECORD IN NEW YORK
THAT THE TEXTS THAT EMERGED FROM THE RECENT GENEVA MEETING
ARE NEGOTIATING TEXTS AND NOTHING MORE, AND, MOREOVER, THAT

WE INTEND TO RETURN TO THEM AT A LATER DATE IN ORDER TO SEEK THE CHANGES NECESSARY TO AN EQUITABLE, ECONOMICALLY RATIONAL AND ENDURING SYSTEM FOR DEEP SEABED MINING. IF WE DO SO WITH SUFFICIENT CLARITY AND FIRMNESS, THERE SHOULD BE NO RISK OF MISCONCEPTIONS OF OUR POSITION ON THE PART OF OTHERS.

-- ONCE HAVING ACHIEVED THAT, I BELIEVE WE CAN SAFELY MOVE ON TO OTHER ISSUES, PARTICULARLY THOSE ASPECTS OF ANNEX II NOT DISCUSSED IN GENEVA. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT OUR CRITICS IN INDUSTRY, WHILE UNHAPPY WITH THE GENEVA OUTCOME, HAVE FOCUSED THEIR FIRE ON THE INADEQUACY OF THE BASIC SYSTEM OF ACCESS, WHICH HAS NOT BEEN THE SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATIONS SINCE THE SIXTH SESSION. IF WE CAN MANAGE TO MAKE MEASURABLE PROGRESS ON ANNEX II IN NEW YORK, WE WILL BE IN A MUCH BETTER POSITION TO ASSESS TOGETHER WHAT ADDITIONAL WORK IS NEEDED ON THE NJENGA TEXTS, AND HOW TO ACHIEVE THE NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS.

-- I LOOK FORWARD TO CONFERRING WITH YOU SHORTLY AFTER WE ARRIVE IN NEW YORK, FOR I FULLY SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE NEED FOR FREQUENT AND THOROUGH CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE NINE AND THE US ON THESE IMPORTANT ISSUES.

END TEXT.
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CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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